

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Accountability Cycle 2004 Midpoint Results**  
**Results for Schools and Districts**  
**October 7, 2003**

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KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Technical considerations in using  
the October 7, 2003 Release of  
CATS School and District  
ACCOUNTABILITY CYCLE 2004  
MIDPOINT RESULTS  
(1998-1999 to 2002-2003)

**NOTE:** The information contained on the files for Accountability Cycle 2004 Midpoint Results for Schools and Districts is embargoed from release until Noon EDT on October 7, 2003.

**GENERAL INFORMATION and CHANGES**

This document is best viewed using a non-proportional font like Courier New. The document is designed for viewing and printing in a Portrait aspect using 8pt text.

School, district and state records are now reported on one file.

**CONTENTS**

This file contains several sections describing the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System, Accountability Cycle 2004 Midpoint (1998-1999 to 2002-2003) results for Schools and Districts.

Section headings follow:

1. CHANGES IN SCHOOL and DISTRICT SCORES
2. MODEL LAB SCHOOLS
3. SCHOOLS NOT INCLUDED IN DATA SUMMARY
4. SCHOOLS WITH NO ACCOUNTABILITY GRADES
5. JOINT SCHOOLS
6. REPORT PRINT FILE
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**1. CHANGES IN SCHOOL and DISTRICT SCORES**

Although some new schools have been opened, and other schools have closed, results are reported only for schools that were open at the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

**2. MODEL LAB SCHOOLS**

MODEL LAB ELEMENTARY (606450), MODEL LAB MIDDLE SCHOOL (606455), and MODEL LAB HIGH SCHOOL (606460) are now included in Madison County totals. The Model Lab schools have a special relationship with Eastern Kentucky University. However, since these schools are technically public schools under the governance of the Madison County Board of Education, the schools are included within the accountability system and school indices are therefore calculated. The schools codes are:

MODEL LAB ELEMENTARY (365450)  
MODEL LAB MIDDLE SCHOOL (365455)  
MODEL LAB HIGH SCHOOL (365460)

**3. SCHOOLS NOT INCLUDED IN DATA SUMMARY**

This data summary includes only schools that are under the governance of a local board of education. Excluded from this summary are the federally dependent schools at Fort Knox and Fort Campbell and the two schools operated by the State Department of Education, the Kentucky School for the Deaf and the Kentucky School for the Blind.

**4. SCHOOLS WITH NO ACCOUNTABILITY GRADES**

Some schools have no grade at which accountability assessment occurs (grades End of Primary {EP or 3}, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12). Schools with no accountability grade will share the accountability results of the schools into which they promote their students. These schools are not included on the printed report or on the databases. National Norm Referenced Test scores are

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included in the calculations for the Long-Term Accountability model and are reflected in schools that include grades EP(3), 6 or 9.

**5. JOINT SCHOOLS**

Joint Schools are reported on the school files. Joint Schools are a school(s) that is combined with another school for accountability purposes because the school does not contain both a 4th and 5th grade or both a 7th and 8th grade. Each Joint School has a combined record and an individual school record for the schools that comprise the Joint School. The file layouts contain non-reported control fields to assist in sorting, merging and reporting of the Joint Schools.

**6. REPORT PRINT File**

The print files are created in both Rich Text (RTF) and Portable Document Format (PDF) formats. The files are created using Microsoft Word 2000. To view the document, change to a landscape-viewing format and use a non-proportional font like Courier New, size 8. You may have to make other formatting changes as well including setting the line size to a 8 point.

The RTF file contains field header and footer information. Unfortunately, word processors from different manufactures running on different computer platforms are not 100% compatible.

**7. DATABASE FILES**

Database files have been developed for use with commercial database or spreadsheet software that recognizes MS-EXCEL (XLS) format and Database format (DBF). Follow the protocol for your specific software to read and manipulate these files. We have observed that commercial database and spreadsheet software handle variables containing "null" or "missing" data differently. Microsoft Excel and Access, for example, display a string of nine's with a zero in the low order digit.

FILE  
DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

PRS03TOT.XLS  
PRS03TOT.DBF

This file contains a summary by school and district of Accountability Indexes and Performance Status.

Field Name    Field Description

CODE            The first three characters are the district number assigned by the Department of Education for data operations. The last three characters are the school building number. The combined record for joint schools end in building numbers of AAA, AAB, AAC, etc. District and state (code "999") records are blank in the last three characters.

REC\_TYPE       Record Type  
                 "SCH" - School results  
                 "DST" - District results  
                 "ST" - State results

REGION         Blank.

DISTNAME       District name - all characters are uppercase.

SCHNAME        School name - characters are upper and lowercase. Blank in district and state records.

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GRADE	<p>This field contains the accountability grades within the school. Schools can have accountability grades ranging from grade EP(3) to grade 12. Spring 2002 grades are (left justified):</p> <p>"EP-04" - grade EP(3) to 4  "EP-05" - grade EP(3) to 5  "EP-06" - grade EP(3) to 6  "EP-07" - grade EP(3) to 7  "EP-08" - grade EP(3) to 8  "EP-12" - grade EP(3) to 12  "04-05" - grades 4 to 5  "04-06" - grades 4 to 6  "04-08" - grades 4 to 8  "05-06" - grades 5 to 6  "05-08" - grades 5 to 8  "05-12" - grades 5 to 12  "06-08" - grades 6 to 8  "06-12" - grades 6 to 12  "05-08" - grades 5 to 8  "05-12" - grades 5 to 12  "06-08" - grades 6 to 8  "06-12" - grades 6 to 8  "07-08" - grades 7 to 8  "07-09" - grades 7 to 9  "07-12" - grades 7 to 12  "08-12" - grades 8 to 12  "09-12" - grades 9 to 12  "10-12" - grades 10 to 12</p>
SPLT_SCH	<p>Joint School indicator.  Values are:  R = Regular school  A = Joint school</p>
SPLC_SCH	<p>Special (school) code assigned to joint school.  Values are:  RRR = Regular school  AAA = First joint school in district  AAB = Second joint school in district  AAC = Third joint school in district  etc.</p>
SPLT_TYP	<p>Type of joint school.  Values are:  R = Regular school  A = Joint school - combined school record.  Contains result information for the schools that are joined.  B = Joint school - school component record.  Identifies schools that are part of the joint school. Record contains code, school name grade. Accountability data is BLANK.</p>
BASELINE	<p>Combined Accountability Index for school years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000. (School years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 when BASE_YR is "2002". This is the schools baseline for Long-Term Accountability.</p>
BASE_YR	<p>Schools baseline year ("2000" or "2002") for Long-Term Accountability.</p>
IMPVGOAL	<p>Goal for Accountability Cycle 2004, (school years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004).</p>
INDEX_99	<p>Accountability index for school year 1998-1999.</p>
INDEX_00	<p>Accountability index for school year 1999-2000.</p>
INDEX_01	<p>Accountability Index for school year 2000-2001.</p>
INDEX_02	<p>Accountability Index for school year 2001-2002.</p>
IDX_0102	<p>Combined Accountability Index for school years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.</p>
INDEX_03	<p>Accountability Index for school year 2002-2003.</p>
INDEX_04	<p>Accountability Index for school year 2003-2004.</p>
IDX_0304	<p>Combined Accountability Index for school years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.</p>

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CLSS\_CUR

Accountability Cycle 2004 performance status.

***The mid-point of Accountability Cycle 2004 does not mark a biennium. District and school performance judgments, school recognition points and pacesetter school status are not reported.***

Meets Goal

The school's accountability index meets or exceeds its goal point, and the school meets the dropout rate and novice reduction requirements. It is eligible for rewards.

Meets Goal - Drp, Nov (Meets Goal - Dropout Rate and Novice Reduction)

The school's accountability index meets or exceeds its goal point, but the school does not meet the dropout rate and novice reduction requirements. It is not eligible for rewards.

Meets Goal - Drp (Meets Goal - Dropout Rate)

The school's accountability index meets or exceeds its goal point, but the school does not meet the dropout rate requirements. It is not eligible for rewards.

Meets Goal - Nov (Meets Goal - Novice Reduction)

The school's accountability index meets or exceeds its goal point, but the school does not meet the novice reduction requirements. It is not eligible for rewards.

Progressing

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point.

Progressing - Dcl, Drp, Nov (Progressing - Decline, Dropout Rate, Novice Reduction)

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point. The index also shows a decline from the previous biennium. The school does not meet the dropout rate and novice reduction requirements.

Progressing - Dcl, Drp (Progressing - Decline, Dropout Rate)

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point. The index also shows a decline from the previous biennium. The school does not meet the dropout rate requirements.

Progressing - Dcl, Nov (Progressing - Decline, Novice Reduction)

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point. The index also shows a decline from the previous biennium. The school does not meet the novice reduction requirements.

Progressing - Drp, Nov (Progressing - Dropout Rate and Novice Reduction)

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point. The school does not meet the dropout rate and novice reduction requirements.

Progressing - Dcl (Progressing - Decline)

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point. The index also shows a decline from the previous biennium.

Progressing - Drp (Progressing - Dropout Rate)

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point. The school does not meet the dropout rate requirements.

Progressing - Nov (Progressing - Novice Reduction)

The school's accountability index falls below its goal point and meets or exceeds its assistance point. The school does not meet the novice reduction requirements.

Assistance - Level 1

The school's accountability index falls below its assistance point. The school is in the highest third of total schools in the three assistance levels.

Assistance - Level 2

The school's accountability index falls below its assistance point. The school is in the middle third of total schools in the three assistance levels.

Assistance - Level 3

The school's accountability index falls below its assistance point. The school is in the lowest third of total schools in the three assistance levels.

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RCG\_PASS      **The mid-point of Accountability Cycle 2004 does not mark a biennium. District and school performance judgments, school recognition points and pacesetter school status are not reported.** Number of recognition levels passed in the current accountability cycle. Recognition Points are assigned as a special one-time reward amount and is given to schools as they meet or exceed recognition points at 55, 66, 77, 88 and 100 -- on the CATS 140-point scale. When a school passes a recognition point and meets the novice reduction and dropout requirements, it receives one share of reward money.

RCG\_NWD      **The mid-point of Accountability Cycle 2004 does not mark a biennium. District and school performance judgments, school recognition points and pacesetter school status are not reported.** Schools who pass a recognition point and have not met the novice reduction and dropout requirements are not eligible for rewards. An asterisk (\*) identifies schools that have not met the dropout and novice reduction requirements.

PACE\_IND      **The mid-point of Accountability Cycle 2004 does not mark a biennium. District and school performance judgments, school recognition points and pacesetter school status are not reported.** The highest-scoring five percent of all schools are called Pacesetter Schools. This designation applies only after they have reached the fourth recognition point (88) and if they have met the dropout rate and novice reduction requirements. "Y" = Pacesetter School.

NOTE      Messages indicating school status.  
Possible messages are:  
Blank = no messages; school is normal.  
a = School's service area changed. The school is held accountable through the district accountability scores.  
c = School is accountable though school's scores and district non-academic data for the baseline years.  
d = School is a reconfigured. The school is held accountable through school results and district growth line, district assistance line, and district novice reduction rate.  
e = Reconfigured School or New School in 2002-2003 school year. The school's baseline index is the two-year average of the school's 2002-2001 and 2001-2002 scores but is computed with the district's 2002-2001 and 2001-2002 non-academic index at the corresponding grade level. The goal line, assistance line and novice reduction rate are calculated from the school's scores and district non-academic data for the baseline years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.  
f = Reconfigured School that is using the District Baseline (goal) for Accountability. School's baseline index, goal line, assistance line and novice reduction rate are based on district scores at the high school level. Due to incomplete non-academic data, district non-academic data are used to calculate the school's non-academic index. This is a special case for new high schools that do not have all grades in the prior year.  
r = School is considered a reconfigured school and the student population is reconstituted for calculation of accountability scores.  
s = Joint school. School(s) have been combined with another school for accountability purposes because the school does not contain both a 4th and 5th grade or both a 7th and 8th grade.  
w = State Board approved school configuration waiver for calculation of accountability scores.  
z = School scores under review.

SHARES      **The mid-point of Accountability Cycle 2004 does not mark a biennium. District and school performance judgments, school recognition points and pacesetter school status are not reported.**

CLSS\_PRV      **The mid-point of Accountability Cycle 2004 does not mark a biennium. District and school performance judgments, school recognition points and pacesetter school status are not reported.** Previous Accountability Cycle performance.

**8. TECHNICAL QUESTIONS.**

Technical questions about the data format may be addressed to:

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